

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COA-01 SCS-03 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SCA-01 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 IO-10 DLOS-03 INRE-00 /068 R

DRAFTED BY ARA: H SHLAUDERMAN: W.S. CLARKE

APPROVED BY ARA: HSHLAUDERMAN

ARA-LA/EP - S.M. PRINGLE (SUBS)

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O P 300136Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 021515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, EC

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF FISHING VESSELS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY

1. DELEGATION REPRESENTING TUNABOAT OWNERS, CANNERS AND ZAPATA MET WITH UNDER SECRETARY MAW AFTERNOON 29 JANUARY. GROUP MADE FORCEFUL PRESENTATION OUTLINING PLIGHT OF TUNA INDUSTRY IN LIGHT OF SEIZURES UNDER NEW LAW. CONFISCATION OF CATCH IN PARTICULAR POSES HIGHLY TROUBLESOME ISSUES OF TECHNICAL, COMMERCIAL AND LEGAL NATURE. WE FORESEE MOUTNING CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC INTEREST IN THESE MATTERS OVER THE DAYS AHEAD.

2. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE HIGHEST AVAIL-  
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ABLE LEVELS OF THE GOE THE CONCERN OF THE USG. YOU MAY

DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. USG FIRMLY PROTESTS SEIZURE OF U.S. FLAG FISHING VESSELS IN OCEAN WATERS OFF THE COAST OF ECUADOR.

B. AS THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR IS AWARE, THE QUESTION OF THE JURISDICTION OF COASTAL STATES OVER CERTAIN SPECIES OF MARINE FISHES IS CURRENTLY THE SUBJECT OF INTENSIVE

NEGOTIATION ON THE BROADEST INTERNATIONAL PLANE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE U.N.-SPONSORED LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, SOON TO RECONVENE IN GENEVA.

C. IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THE RECENT SEIZURES RAISE TENSIONS AND COMPLICATE THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

D. THE DECISION OF THE GOE TO CONFISCATE THE CATCH ON BOARD THE VARIOUS VESSELS REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL AGGRAVATION TO OUR DIFFERENCES OVER FISHING RIGHTS IN THE OCEAN WATERS OFF ECUADOR. WE DEEPLY REGRET THIS DECISION AND THAT PROVISION OF ECUADOREAN LAW ON WHICH IT IS BASED. OUR MOST IMMEDIATE CONCERN IS THE DELAY THE ARRANGEMENTS ATTENDANT TO THE CONFISCATION OF CATCH MAY CAUSE IN THE RELEASE OF THE U.S. VESSELS AND THEIR CREWS. WE URGE THE GOE TO TAKE EVERY POSSIBLE ACTION TO EXPEDITE THE DEPARTURE OF THE VESSELS.

3. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS OF DEMARCHE ASAP. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP DETENTION, FISHING BOATS, FISHING DISPUTES, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE021515  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** H SHLAUDERMAN: W.S. CLARKE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750033-0578  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 23 JUN 2003  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEIZURE OF FISHING VESSELS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PFOR, CGEN, EC, US  
**To:** QUITO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006